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ACTION PC-01

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	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06	PM-02	SDEL-00	SP-00	ASDS-01
	MLDE-00	/035W					

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P 101455Z DEC 93
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5247
INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 KIGALI 04382

STATE PASS TOPEC
BUJUMBURA FOR RSO
YAOUNDE FOR DAO

E.O. 12356: OADR: DECL.
TAGS: ASEC, CASC, MCAP, PINR, PINS, RW
SUBJECT: RWANDA: ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SECURITY
SITUATION

REF: A) KIGALI 4324, B) KIGALI 4247, C) KIGALI 4250,
D) KIGALI 4221, AND E) KIGALI 4057

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

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PAGE 02 KIGALI 04382 01 OF 04 101506Z
2. SUMMARY. EMERGENCY ACTION COMMITTEE (EAC) MET 8
DECEMBER TO ANALYZE SECURITY SITUATION AS FRENCH
TROOPS DEPART, UN FORCES BECOME OPERATIONAL, AND RPF
FORCES PREPARE TO COME TO KIGALI. POST AND OTHER
MISSIONS MEET TO WORK OUT COOPERATIVE SECURITY
ARRANGEMENTS AND THEIR INTERPLAY WITH UNAMIR.
UPCOMING FLASHPOINTS AND POSSIBLE COUP SCENARIOS
DISCUSSED AS A BACKDROP TO SECURITY PLANS. END
SUMMARY.

SECURITY CONCERN PROMPT MEETING OF EAC

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 01 NOV 2007 200103014

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3. POST'S EAC MET ON 8 DECEMBER TO ASSESS OUR SECURITY PREPAREDNESS AND THE CURRENT THREAT TO BOTH THE OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE AMERICAN COMMUNITY. PROMPTING THE MEETING WERE THE RECENT UPSURGE IN VIOLENT INCIDENTS OUTSIDE KIGALI (SEE REFTELS), THE HEIGHTENED TENSIONS IN THE NORTH AND SOUTH, THE IMMINENT DEPARTURE OF THE FRENCH TROOPS, ASSUMPTION OF SECURITY IN KIGALI BY UN FORCES ON DECEMBER 15, AND THE ANTICIPATED ARIVAL OF THE RPF BATTALION IN KIGALI. EAC ALSO DISCUSSED VARIOUS SCENARIOS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS AND HOW SECURITY MIGHT BE AFFECTED.

POST'S AND OTHER EMBASSIES SECURITY PRECAUTIONS

4. POST SECURITY OFFICER (ADMIN) AND ECONOFF (CONSULAR) REPORTED TO EAC ON MEASURES EACH HAS TAKEN TO TIGHTEN SECURITY PROCEDURES. ECONOFF REPORTED THAT

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IN ADDITION TO KEEPING THE PRIVATE AMERICAN WARDEN LIST UP TO DATE, EMBASSY NOW ALSO HAS A CURRENT LIST OF ALL VEHICLES OWNED BY THE COMMUNITY IF NEEDED IN AN OVERLAND EVACUATION. THE ECONOFF ALSO REPORTED THAT A HIGH FREQUENCY RADIO NET HAD BEEN CREATED WITH PRIVATE AMCIT RADIO OPERATORS, WITH THE EMBASSY'S RADIO SERVING AS HOME BASE. ADMINOFF SAID THAT RADIO TECHNICIANS WERE WORKING ON THE EMBASSY'S HAND-HELD RADIO SYSTEM TO ALLOW FOR RECEIPT OF EEC TRANSMISSIONS FROM THEIR NET. ADMINOFF ALSO TOLD EAC THAT THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY WARDEN SYSTEM WAS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING REVISED TO ALLOW FOR THE INCLUSION OF NEWLY ARRIVED AID CONTRACTORS.

5. ADMINOFF AND ECONOFF TOLD THE EAC ABOUT THEIR MEETINGS WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THE FRENCH AND BELGIAN EMBASSIES ON THEIR PREPARATIONS FOR FUTURE SECURITY IN LIGHT OF FRENCH TROOP DEPARTURE BY DECEMBER 15. ECONOFF THEN REPORTED ON CONTACTS WITH UNAMIR OFFICERS.

6. THE FRENCH DCM SAID THAT THE EMBASSY WAS INFORMING FRENCHMEN IN COUNTRY THAT PERSONAL SECURITY WAS NOW THEIR RESPONSIBILITY. THE FRENCH ARE ALSO IN THE

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PROCESS OF RE-CHECKING THE SECURITY FEATURES OF THEIR OFFICIAL RESIDENCES. THEIR EMBASSY IS PURCHASING RADIOS FOR THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY FOR COMMUNICATION IN KIGALI AND THE FRENCH ARE ALSO SETTING UP A WARDEN SYSTEM AKIN TO POST'S OWN.

7. DURING ADMIN/PSOFF'S MEETING WITH HIS COUNTERPART
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IN THE BELGIAN EMBASSY, THE BELGIAN SECURITY OFFICER ECHOED WHAT THE FRENCH HAD SAID. THE BELGIANS HAVE ALSO TOLD THEIR EXPATRIATE AND OFFICIAL COMMUNITY THAT PERSONAL SECURITY IS EVERYONE'S PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. THE BELGIANS ALREADY HAVE A RADIO NET ESTABLISHED WITH THEIR OFFICIAL COMMUNITY. THEY ALSO HAVE A HIGH FREQUENCY RADIO NET WHICH REACHES MEMBERS OF THEIR PRIVATE BELGIAN COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE. THE BELGIAN SECURITY OFFICER ADDED THAT THE FACT THAT A BELGIAN OFFICER HAS BEEN NAMED AS THE SECTOR COMMANDER OF KIGALI GIVES THEM A CERTAIN SENSE OF SECURITY, ALTHOUGH THE BELGIANS ARE UNDER NO

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 04 KIGALI 04382

STATE PASS TOPEC
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SUBJECT: RWANDA: ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SECURITY

ILLUSION THAT THE BELGIAN OFFICERS THAT ARE PART OF
THE UNAMIR FORCE WILL PROVIDE ANY MORE SPECIALIZED
PROTECTION TO THEIR COMMUNITY THAN TO THE REST OF
RWANDA.

8. DURING A SECURITY MEETING WITH OTHER WESTERN
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MISSIONS SUBSEQUENT TO THE EAC, ECONOFF'S SUGGESTION
TO EXPAND POST'S EXISTING HIGH FREQUENCY RADIO NET
WITH THE INCLUSION OF OTHER EXPATRIATE RADIO
OPERATORS WAS WELL RECEIVED. POST'S CONCERN, SHARED
BY THE OTHER MISSIONS, IS THE UNCERTAINTY OF
COMMUNICATIONS LINKS WITH ITS EXPATRIATES OUTSIDE
KIGALI SHOULD THE SECURITY SITUATION DETERIORATE. THE
CREATION OF AN ALLIED RADIO NET WOULD ALLOW FOR RADIO
CONTACT WITH ALL PRINCIPAL GROUPS OF AMERICANS AND
OTHER EXPATRIATES IN OUTLYING AREAS. THE RADIO NET
WILL BE FORMALLY ESTABLISHED WEEK OF DECEMBER 13,
ONCE ALL MISSIONS GATHER THE OPERATING FREQUENCIES
AND CALL SIGNS OF THEIR OPERATORS TO ADD TO POST'S
EXISTING NET.

UNAMIR'S ROLE IN ASSURING EXPATRIATE SECURITY

9. BOTH EMBASSIES' OFFICERS MENTIONED THAT THEY, LIKE
POST, HAD ASKED UNAMIR WHAT ROLE IT WOULD PLAY IN
ASSURING THE SECURITY OF THE EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY.
UNAMIR'S RESPONSE WAS THAT A MEETING WILL BE

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SCHEDULED WITH ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS DURING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13-17 TO DISCUSS SECURITY, BUT NO TIME OR DATE FOR THE MEETING WAS SPECIFIED.

10. UNAMIR KIGALI SECTOR COMMANDER DID ADVISE BELGIAN CONSULAR OFFICER THAT THE UN FORCES WOULD GUARANTEE SAFE PASSAGE TO THE AIRPORT DURING A CRISIS. UNAMIR ALSO AGREED TO THE CREATION OF ASSEMBLY POINTS WITHIN KIGALI WHERE EXPATRIATES COULD GO AND BE ASSURED OF

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UNAMIR PROTECTION. UNAMIR WOULD ALSO HAVE A REACT UNIT THAT WOULD FUNCTION MUCH LIKE NOROIT'S REACT UNITS TO RESPOND IN CASES OF BREAK-INS AT EXPATRIATE RESIDENCES OR ARMED ATTACKS AGAINST EXPATRIATES IN KIGALI. OUTSIDE KIGALI, UNAMIR HAD NO PLANS DEVELOPED YET FOR ASSURING THE SECURITY OF EXPATRIATES IN OUTLYING AREAS. UNAMIR'S CONCERNS OUTSIDE KIGALI RESTED PRINCIPALLY WITH MONITORING THE DMZ.

POSSIBLE FLASHPOINTS AFFECTING THE SECURITY SITUATION

11. IN THE EAC'S ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS, THE COMMITTEE PINPOINTED THREE MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS WHICH COULD BECOME FLASHPOINTS FOR THE SECURITY SITUATION IN COUNTRY. THE APPARENT GAP BETWEEN THE FRENCH'S DEPARTURE ON DECEMBER 13 AND UNAMIR'S OFFICIAL ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SECURITY OF KIGALI ON DECEMBER 15 COULD BE CAPITALIZED ON TO COMMIT FURTHER TERRORIST ACTS BY THOSE WHO WANT TO SEE THE PEACE PROCESS DERAILLED. UNAMIR CURRENTLY SUFFERS FROM A SHORTAGE OF VEHICLE AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT. NEW OFFICERS ARRIVING IN THE COMING WEEK DO NOT KNOW KIGALI OR THE COUNTRYSIDE AS WELL AS THE FRENCH DID. WITH UNAMIR AT ITS TACTICAL WEAKEST, RADICAL ELEMENTS COULD CHOOSE TO ACT AT THIS TIME.

12. THE ARRIVAL OF THE RPF IN KIGALI COULD BE A SECOND FLASHPOINT WHEN BOTH SIDES ACTUALLY COME TOGETHER TO BEGIN FORMATION OF THE TRANSITIONAL

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GOVERNMENT. TENSIONS IN KIGALI ARE EXPECTED TO BE HIGH AT THIS POINT AND RADICAL ELEMENTS ON EITHER SIDE MAY ACT TO CREATE SUSPICION AND MISTRUST ON BOTH SIDES TO KEEP THE PROCESS FROM MOVING FORWARD. THE TENTATIVE TARGET DATE FOR THE RPF BATTALION'S ARRIVAL IN KIGALI IS WEEK OF 20 DECEMBER.

13. FINALLY, THE ACTUAL INAUGURATION OF THE NEW TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT AND ITS FIRST INITIAL DAYS IN OFFICE MAY BE A TIME WHEN RADICAL ELEMENTS COULD ACT

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P 101455Z DEC 93
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5249
INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 04 KIGALI 04382

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SUBJECT: RWANDA: ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SECURITY

TO UNDERMINE THE GOVERNMENT'S CREDIBILITY AND STALL THE GOVERNMENT'S OPERATIONS. COUP SCENARIOS ARE MOST LIKELY DURING THIS TIME PERIOD. GOVERNMENT INSTALLATION IS ANTICIPATED END OF DECEMBER/EARLY JANUARY.

DESPERATE TIMES - DESPERATE MEASURES: COUP SCENARIOS
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14. THE EAC HYPOTHEZIZED ABOUT VARIOUS COUP SCENARIOS THAT COULD OCCUR ON OR AROUND ANY ONE OF THESE FLASHPOINTS. GIVEN THE FLUID NATURE OF THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION, THE EAC COULD ENVISION COUP ATTEMPTS FROM BOTH THE LEFT AND THE RIGHT AGAINST HABYARIMAA BY THOSE WHO BELIEVE THAT HABYARIMANA AND HIS INNER CIRCLE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RECENT SECURITY INCIDENTS AND WHO FEAR HB MAY RISK A RETURN TO WAR TO AVOID CONTINUING THE PEACE PROCESS. A COUP COULD ALSO BE PERPETRATED BY THE RIGHT IN SUPPORT OF HABYARIMANA BY THOSE WHO DO NOT WANT TO SEE THE PEACE PROCESS GO FORWARD BUT WOULD RATHER SEE HABYARIMANA STAY IN POWER.

15. THE EAC ALSO SAW THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE RPF COULD TRY TO STAGE A COUP. IF THE PEACE PROCESS SEEMED TO BE STALLED, THEY COULD USE RECENT SECURITY INCIDENTS AS AN EXCUSE TO RENEW FIGHTING, ALLEGING THAT HABYARIMANA NEVER HAD ANY INTENTION OF ALLOWING A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE OVER. WITH THE FRENCH GONE, UNAMIR TEMPORARILY SHORT ON EQUIPMENT, AND RECRUITS ALLEGEDLY WAITING ON BOTH THE UGANDAN AND BURUNDI BORDER, THE RPF MIGHT BELIEVE IT COULD MILITARILY TAKE CONTROL OF KIGALI; POLITICAL CONTROL WOULD BE ANOTHER QUESTION.

16. COMMENT. THE EAC BELIEVES AN ALL-OUT COUP ATTEMPT IS UNLIKELY. WE BELIEVE THAT THE MOMENTUM IN THE PROCESS IS STILL MOVING FORWARD AND THAT THE MAJORITY

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ON ALL SIDES STILL WANT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO OCCUR. LESSONS FROM
BURUNDI COUNSEL AGAINST ANY DESPERATE ACTIONS ON THE
PART OF THE LEFT, THE RIGHT AND THE RPF, BUT THE EAC
RECOGNIZES THAT LOGIC AND REASON DO NOT ALWAYS SEEM
TO PREVAIL IN THE RWANDAN POLITICAL ARENA. SHOULD
ANY SIDE BE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO ATTEMPT A COUP AT THIS
JUNCTURE, IT WOULD PROBABLY PROVOKE THE OTHER SIDE TO
REPLY MILITARILY. IN SUCH AN EVENT, ALTHOUGH
AMERICANS WOULD NOT BE TARGETS, RBSULTING INSTABILITY
WOULD PUT AMERICANS AT RISK. END COMMENT.

ESCALATING TERRORISM MORE LIKELY SCENARIO

17. ESCALATING TERRORISM APPEARS TO BE MORE LIKELY
THAN AN ALL OUT COUP ATTEMPT. THE EAC NOTED THAT
RECENT ACTS OF VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM HAVE OCCURRED
FAR FROM KIGALI, BUT THIS COULD CHANGE AS THE STAKES
INCREASE. ONCE THE RPF IS IN TOWN, ELEMENTS
COMMITTING ACTS TO IMPLICATE OPPONENTS COULD HAVE
REASON TO BRING THEIR VIOLENCE TO KIGALI. AGAIN, THE
EAC DID NOT BELIEVE AMERICANS WOULD BECOME TARGETS,
BUT BEING IN THE WRONG PLACE AT THE WRONG TIME COULD
ALWAYS BE A POSSIBILITY.

ARMED ATTACKS AND ROBBERY ANOTHER CONCERN

18. THE EAC ALSO IDENTIFIED ARMED ATTACKS AND ROBBERY
AS ANOTHER SECURITY CONCERN. UNAMIR WILL REQUIRE
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GOVERNMENT AND RPF FORCES IN KIGALI TO SECURE ALL
MILITARY WEAPONS. HOWEVER, WE SUSPECT SOME CIVILIANS
AND MILITARY MAY HAVE WEAPONS CACHED. ALTHOUGH POST
HAS NOT NOTED AN INCREASE IN ROBBERIES OR ARMED
ATTACKS RECENTLY, THE EAC STILL BBLIEVED THAT
CRIMINAL ELEMENTS IN KIGALI WOULD STILL TRY TO ACT
DESPITE UNAMIR'S PRESENCE. THE NUMBER OF ROVING
PATROLS UNAMIR HAS PROGRAMMED FOR THE CITY, HOWEVER,
MAY THWART THE CRIMINALS' PLANS.

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P 101455Z DEC 93

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5250

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 04 OF 04 KIGALI 04382

STATE PASS TOPEC
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EAC ACTIONS PROPOSED

19. THE EAC DECIDED ON SEVERAL MEASURES TO FURTHER
TIGHTEN SECURITY PROCEDURES AND KEEP UP THE SECURITY
AWARENESS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS DURING POTENTIALLY
DIFFICULT MONTHS OF INITIAL TRANSITION. AFTER THE
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MEETING WITH UNAMIR, CDA, ECONOFF, AND ADMINOFF WILL
HOLD MEETINGS WITH THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY AND THE
PRIVATE AMERICAN COMMUNITY WARDENS TO DISCUSS
SECURITY PROCEDURES. THE EMBASSY WILL ALSO CONTINUE
TO ENCOURAGE REGISTRATION OF ALL AMERICANS THROUGH
OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE CHANNELS. FINALLY, THE ADMINOFF
WILL MEET WITH THE MANAGER OF EMBASSY'S LOCAL GUARD
SERVICES TO INSURE RAPID RESPONSE ON HIS PART IF A
BREAK-IN OR ARMED ATTACK IS IN PROGRESS.

COMMENT

20. AMERICAN CITIZENS ARE NOT DIRECTLY THREATENED AT
THIS TIME. UNAMIR'S HANDLING OF RBCENT INCIDENTS
GIVES EMBASSY CONFIDENCE THAT FURTHER PROBLEMS ARE
UNLIKELY TO RESULT IN A TOTAL BREAKDOWN OF LAW AND
ORDER. NONETHELESS, THE EMBASSY HAS TAKEN STEPS TO
TIGHTEN UP SECURITY PROCEDURES AND IMPROVE
COMMUNICATION LINKS, RECOGNIZING THAT THE SECURITY
SITUATION REMAINS FRAGILE. EMBASSY WILL ALSO CONTINUE
ITS BI-WEEKLY COMMUNITY MEETINGS AT WHICH
CHARGE/AMBASSADOR BRIEF ON SECURITY/POLITICAL
SITUATION. LEADER

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